

May 22, 2008

Michigan School Readiness Program (MSRP) Supplemental Funding

Governor Jennifer M. Granholm signed legislation to provide an additional \$4.7 million for the MSRP. The additional funding was included in House Bill 5531 (PA 112 of 2008), a 2007-2008 State School Aid Fund supplemental. Locate PA 112 at: [http://www.legislature.mi.gov/\(S\(lclxpj55vebt3o55vq150dvr\)\)/mileg.aspx?page=getObject&objectName=2007-HB-5531](http://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(lclxpj55vebt3o55vq150dvr))/mileg.aspx?page=getObject&objectName=2007-HB-5531)

Implications for MSRP:

- \$4.7M is appropriated for School Districts/Public School Academies (PSAs) that received less than their fiscal year 2006-2007 MSRP funding level, or the number of children requested to serve in fiscal year 2007-2008, whichever is less.
- The increase does not fully fund all 483 School District/PSA 2007-2008 requests.
- Grantees receiving an enhanced award have been contacted via e-mail from the Office of Early Childhood Education and Family Services and realized the supplemental award in the May 20, 2008 state aid payment.
- School Districts/PSAs are strongly encouraged to accept the supplemental funding based on proposed State School Aid language that will establish the hold harmless base amount for FY 2008-2009. Please make a good faith effort to fully enroll your program; however, if that is not possible, it is still advantageous to accept this funding and plan for an adjustment to the allocation award for FY 2008-2009. Carryover is allowed through June 30, 2009.
- There is no change in the per-child funding amount which remains at \$3,400 per Half-Day slot.
- Supplemental funding is to expand programming rather than enhance existing programming. Funding is tied to additional, previously unserved/unfunded children, or new Parent Involvement in Education (PIE) programming. PIE remains capped at the amount spent on this option in 2006-2007.

Implementation Options:

- Document maximum number of slots filled this program year. Count slots that have been vacated and then filled from the waiting list as separate slots filled.
- If grantees have enrolled and served children above their originally awarded MSRP slots for 2007-2008, and the grantee has documentation that those children are eligible for the MSRP, the enhanced award may be used to compensate the School District/PSA for provisions of those services. Any tuition which parents have incurred for preschool services is to be refunded.
- Extended School Year; recruit and enroll additional children into the program through the end of June, 2008.

- Summer Classroom-Based program: 200 teacher-child contact hours, two parent contacts. Other requirements as outlined in the *Michigan School Readiness Program Implementation Manual* at: www.michigan.gov/msrp.
- Summer Home-Based program: two home visits per week for six weeks and one cluster meeting per week. Other program requirements as outlined in the *Michigan School Readiness Program Implementation Manual* at: www.michigan.gov/msrp. This option may work well for districts that do not have access to district facilities or staff over the summer.
- Subcontract with an approved child development program. Follow MSRP guidelines regarding implementation, class size, staff qualifications, etc., as outlined in the *Michigan School Readiness Program Implementation Manual* at: www.michigan.gov/msrp. This option may work well for districts that do not have access to district facilities or staff over the summer.
- Enhance the PIE option. The total PIE amount may not exceed the PIE amount spent by a School District/PSA in 2006-2007.
- Enrollment ideas: children on current MSRP waiting list, previously unserved children identified at local "kindergarten roundup" who may benefit from preschool experience, children exiting from other child development programs (i.e., Head Start, Early Childhood Special Education, Title I Preschool, community preschools).

Accepting Funds:

- 2007-2008 Final Application in MEGS has been returned for modifications. A person having Level 4 or 5 access completes modifications.
- Click SAVE on Project Fact Sheet; this pulls in the enhanced allocation. Half-Day programs review/adjust data on 1d, 2b and 2e. Full-Day programs review/adjust data on 1e, 2b and 2e. Home-Based programs review/adjust data on 1f, 2b and 2f. Grantees implementing PIE review/adjust data on 1i. SAVE changes.
- Requirement for revised Participating Resolution is waived.
- Budget Summary must match data on the Project Fact Sheet. Grantees are encouraged to modify budget detail, reflecting intent to expend the full, enhanced allocation.
- Adjust other application pages as needed: staff screens, Half-Day screen, Full-Day screen, Facility, etc. SAVE changes on each screen.
- Submit by June 27, 2008.

ADVOCACY

PA 112 provides for an additional 1382 children to receive high-quality preschool before kindergarten. Please acknowledge with legislators the benefits to the children and families of your School District/Public School Academy as a result of PA 112.

To follow legislative action and to connect with State Representatives and Senators, click on the following link: <http://www.legislature.mi.gov>.